

- a) transmitting a load information of a radio cell from a first radio network controller serving said radio cell to a second radio network controller not serving said radio cell; and
 - b) using said load information in said second radio network controller for deciding on a load status of said radio cell.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said load status is used for deciding on an admission of said radio cell for handover of a mobile terminal controlled by the second radio network controller.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein said load information is transmitted in response to a load request issued by said second radio network controller.

4. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 1, wherein said load information is transmitted, when a load level of said radio cell has reached a predetermined load threshold.

5. A method according to claim 4, wherein said second radio network controller commands a controlled mobile terminal to replace or delete a branch to said second cell, in response to said load information.

6. A method according to claim 3, wherein said load request is issued on the basis of a measurement of a neighbor cell supported by said mobile terminal.

✓ 7. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 3, wherein said load request is issued, when said radio cell is included in an active set or a candidate set of said mobile terminal, said active set or candidate set being used for determining radio cells for the handover of said mobile terminal.

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C7* 8. A method according to claim 7, wherein said load request is issued, when said mobile terminal has transmitted a request to said second radio network controller to add said radio cell to said active set.

✓ 9. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 7, wherein said admission decision is directed to an admission or deletion of said radio cell in the active set of said mobile terminal.

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C7* 10. A method according to claim 3, wherein a periodical load information is transmitted in response to said load request.

✓ 11. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 1, wherein said radio cell is located adjacent to an area served by said second network controller.

*C1
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C7* 12. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 1, wherein said load information includes a transmission power level and a received interference level of said radio cell.

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13. (AMENDED) A method according to claim 1, wherein said mobile radio network is a radio access network of the UMTS.

Sch B1
14. A method according to claim 1, wherein said load status is used for deciding on an amount of capacity which can be allocated to a user.

15. A method according to claim 1, wherein said load status is used for deciding when to order a mobile terminal to switch to a dedicated channel state.

16. A method according to claim 15, wherein said mobile terminal is ordered to switch to said dedicated channel, when said load status indicates an overload of a common channel.

17. (AMENDED) A system for performing cell load control in a mobile radio network using diversity connections between base stations, comprising:

- AS*
- a) a first radio network controller comprising transmitting means arranged for transmitting a load information of a radio cell served by said first radio network controller to a second radio network controller not serving said radio cell; and
 - b) said second radio network controller comprising a receiving means arranged for receiving said load information, and a decision means arranged for deciding on a load status of said radio cell.

18. (AMENDED) A system according to claim 17, wherein said load status is used for deciding on an admission of said radio cell for a handover of a mobile terminal controlled by said second radio network controller .

19. (AMENDED) A system according to claim 17, wherein said first radio network controller comprises a determination means for determining a load level of said radio cell and for generating said load information.

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23. (AMENDED) A system according to claim 19, wherein said determination means is arranged to determine said load information on the basis of a load parameter received by said first radio network controller from a base station of said radio cell.

24. (AMENDED) A system according to claim 17, wherein said mobile radio network is a radio access network of the UMTS.

25. A system according to claim 17, wherein said load status is used for deciding on an amount of capacity which can be allocated to a user.

26. (AMENDED) A system according to claim 17, wherein said load status is used for deciding when to order a mobile terminal controlled by said second radio network controller to switch to a dedicated channel state.

27. A system according to claim 26, wherein said mobile terminal is ordered to switch to said dedicated channel, when said load status indicates an overload of a common channel.

28. (AMENDED) A radio network controller used as said first or second radio network controller in a system according to claim 17.